

LIVE OAK DAILY DEMOCRATPublished every Afternoon
Except Sunday.

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THE DAILY DEMOCRAT will be mailed to any part of the United States, postage prepaid, for \$5.00 per year; \$2.50 for six months; \$1.25 for three months, or 50 cents for five weeks, in advance. Delivered to any part of the city, by carrier, for 10 cents per week.

A TALE OF TWO CITIES.

One of the penalties of success is the detraction of the envious and the jealous. No man may rise above his fellows without making himself the target for the shafts of smaller mortals, or the witless jeers of those whom he defeated in honest competition and who find some alleviation of their own pangs in seeking to inflict pain upon the successful rival. And this ungenerous trait is true sometimes of communities no less than individuals, an instance of which has just come to hand in the case of Ocala if we may believe that the Banner, of that city, fairly reflects the spirit of its local constituency. But we believe nothing of the kind, and we refuse to withdraw or qualify the honest praise we have heretofore bestowed upon that pleasant little city. Upon the Banner itself we fix exclusively the condemnation of seeking to disparage a sister city from no motive higher than envy so obvious that it can't be concealed even by the insincere compliments it has the poor taste to mix with its heartfelt detraction.

The facts in the case are few and simple and conclusive. The last State census gave Live Oak a population of 7,200 (not 9,000, as the Banner asserts merely to add force to its detraction), and to Ocala it gave a population of about 4,000—we forget the precise number. These figures have never been impeached and they stand today conclusive of the question as to the relative population of the two cities at the time the census was taken. That would seem to preclude all controversy on the issue and it does with everybody except the Ocala Banner. That paper has never been happy since the returns came in and it has been lying in wait ever since like a defeated enemy determined to "get even" with an unsuspecting adversary in a settled contest. At last it thinks it sees a point, aye, two points, which it laboriously magnifies into "arguments" with which it would knock out the census returns, as David did Goliath with his pebbles in a sling, and lay low the pride of the fair metropolis of the Suwannee county whose only sin is that it counts more roses than Ocala.

In the special senatorial election in this county in which there was a very light vote cast, both in Live Oak and throughout the county, there was but little popular interest and, as is frequently the case, a large proportion of the people stayed at home on election day and the vote cast was no sort of index of the population of either city or county. Here in the South especially it is notorious that except at rare intervals when there is intense popular feeling, the vote in State, county and city elections is generally light and sometimes it is preposterously out of proportion to the true population. That was the case in the senatorial election in this city, and yet the Banner takes those figures and attempts with them to impeach the census returns. Nothing could be more unjust and the test is so obviously weak and ineffective that it will count for nothing with fair-minded, thinking people. If Live Oak had cast but fifty votes in that election, it would not disturb the fact that she had 7,200 people when the census was taken—and she's got them yet.

The other pebble in the sling of the Banner, which it hurls full in the smiling face of the city whose larger official dimensions stir the steady resentment of our unhappy contemporary, is that the Ocala postoffice handles a larger amount of mail matter than the postoffice here, as shown by the relative salaries of

the two postmasters. On an issue of population this proves nothing, and this seems to be the real issue the Banner is seeking to force in a roundabout way. But there are some incidental facts which it is well enough to call attention to in this connection. In the matter of post-office business, Ocala has this advantage over Live Oak, which doesn't touch the question of population or growth: The great phosphate mining companies of two large counties, Marion and Citrus, use the Ocala postoffice for mailing purposes as the nearest available office of suitable facilities for that end. These companies have a very large correspondence and every piece of mail sent or received by them helps to swell the strictly local business—but does not help the case of Ocala in any comparison of its population, prosperity and resources with Live Oak. The Tallahassee postoffice does more business than ours because of the immense correspondence of the various departments of the State Government, but that does not change the fact that Tallahassee is not the equal of Live Oak in either population or commerce.

And outside the census figures, our city shrinks from no comparison with Ocala in intelligence, business and growth. Even while we write, the cheerful music of the carpenters' tools in action comes floating through the open windows from the business section and we dare say that no other city of its class in the State can show more high-class building now going on than we can. Our beautiful hotel is nearing completion, and next winter we will be in the market for the tourists. But it is useless to enumerate; we have all that Ocala has and more, too, barring that electric elevator which the Banner parades as an asset that puts its town in the lead. We are short on that just at present until our hotel is completed, but the shortage is more than compensated in the fact that we've got a gen-u-wine automobile garage and a chauffeur with a French name, just like you were in New York city itself, and great, gorgeous motor cars, with patrician glass shields, rushing over our beautiful shaded streets and avenues and boulevards every afternoon, past long rows of stately mansions where our haut ton reside. And in those same cars you'll see the brightest eyes, the fairest cheeks, the loveliest faces and the most fetching costumes, for in the matter of pretty girls the Banner will confess that we are beyond the reach of even its calumnious shafts and our supremacy is secure.

Has Ocala got a garage, that's the question? And if so, can it show up a French chauffeur with the true Parisian accent and moustache to give tone and chic to the establishment? If not, let her hide her diminished head and put the proper crimp in the folds of her braggart Banner, for Live Oak has got her faded.

There will be no war between this country and Japan. This is unofficial but accurate. As a war prophet we are the genuine article and can be relied on.

Georgia Day, followed by Virginia week, has given the lagging Jamestown Exposition the big impulse it has been needing for some weeks, and we hope that impulse may be communicated to the whole country and an increasing stream of visitors will pour in. The Virginians have done grandly in making a great Exposition with historical significance and background to it to touch the patriotic sentiment and pride of the whole country, and it deserves the large patronage of the American people regardless of section.

The Faulkner law which compels the over-loaded booze fighter to tell where he got his booze in prohibition communities so that the officers may run down the "bling tiger," may not be constitutional, as the Tampa Tribune suggests; but if it ain't, it ought to be, and if it is again that blessed document, we are in favor of repealing the latter so far as it conflicts with the aforesaid law. Just why it is unconstitutional for a witness to be compelled to answer a question which doesn't incriminate himself when the answer may serve the useful purpose of locating a criminal, we don't understand.

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